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Finding Pursuant to Section 662 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, Concerning Operations in Foreign Countries Other Than Those Intended Solely for the Purpose of Intelligence Collection

I find the following operation in a foreign country is important to the national security of the United States and direct the Director of Central Intelligence, or his designee, to report this Finding to the concerned committees of the Congress pursuant to Section 662, and to provide such briefings as necessary.

SCOPE

DESCRIPTION

Iran

Using any and all possible means, effect the rescue and safe departure from Iran of persons held hostage in the United States Embassy in Tehran and United States persons and their dependents held against their will in Iran or otherwise unable freely to depart from the country.

Thomas Conter

The White House

Date: January 23, 1980

NSC review(s) completed.

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WASHINGTON

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January 23, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

I have today signed a Finding pursuant to Section 662 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, covering operations to effect the rescue of persons held hostage in the United States Embassy in Tehran and other United States persons and their dependents who are held against their will in Iran or who are otherwise unable freely to depart from that country.

I hereby instruct you, and determine that such instruction is consistent with the timely notification provision of the law, to give notice to the Congress of this Finding or of any operation pursuant to this Finding only at such time as, in your judgment, such notice can be given without undue risk of loss of life should an inadvertent disclosure occur. You may determine, in accordance with this instruction, that notice should be given only after such operation is commenced or completed.

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